FEDERAL-STATE-PRIVATE
COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR MONTANA

Prepared by

U. S. DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE ★ SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Collaborating with

MONTANA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Data included in this report were obtained by the agencies named above in cooperation with Federal, State, and private organizations listed on the inside back cover of this report.

AS OF
JAN. 1, 1972

TO RECIPIENTS OF WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK REPORTS:

Most of the usable water in western states originates as mountain snowfall. This snowfall accumulates during the winter and spring, several months before the snow melts and appears as streamflow. Since the runoff from precipitation as snow is delayed, estimates of snowmelt runoff can be made well in advance of its occurrence. Streamflow forecasts published in this report are based principally on measurement of the water equivalent of the mountain snowpack.

Forecasts become more accurate as more of the data affecting runoff are measured. All forecasts assume that climatic factors during the remainder of the snow accumulation and melt season will interact with a resultant average effect on runoff. Early season forecasts are therefore subject to a greater change than those made on later dates.

The snow course measurement is obtained by sampling snow depth and water equivalent at surveyed and marked locations in mountain areas. A total of about ten samples are taken at each location. The average of these are reported as snow depth and water equivalent. These measurements are repeated in the same location near the same dates each year.

Snow surveys are made monthly or semi-monthly from January 1 through June 1 in most states. There are about 1900 snow courses in Western United States and in the Columbia Basin in British Columbia. Networks of automatic snow water equivalent and related data sensing devices, along with radio telemetry are expanding and will provide a cantinuous record of snow water and other parameters of key locations.

Detailed data on snow course and soil moisture measurements are presented in state and local reports. Other data on reservoir storage, summaries of precipitation, current streamflow, and soil moisture conditions at valley elevations are also included. The report for Western United States presents a broad picture of water supply outlook conditions, including selected streamflow forecasts, summary of snow accumulation to date, and storage in larger reservoirs.

Snow survey and soil moisture data for the period of record are published by the Soil Conservation Service by states about every five years. Data for the current year is summarized in a West-wide basic data summary and published about October 1 of each year.

COVER PHOTO NUMBER ORC 221-3

PUBLISHED BY SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

The Soil Conservation Service publishes reports following the principal snow survey dates from January 1 through June 1 in cooperation with state water administrators, agricultural experiment stations and others. Copies of the reports for Western United States and all state reports may be obtained from Soil Conservation Service, Western Regional Technical Service Center, Room 209, 701 N. W. Glisan, Portland, Oregon 97209.

Copies of state and local reports may also be obtained from state offices of the Soil Conservation Service in the following states:

STATE	ADDRESS
Alaska	P. O. Box "F", Palmer, Alaska 99645
Arizona	6029 Federal Building, Phoenix, Arizona 85025
Colorado (N. Mex.)	P. O. Box 17107, Denver, Colorado 80217
Idaho	Room 345, 304 N. 8th. St., Boise, Idaho 83702
Montana	P. O. Box 970, Bozeman, Montana 59715
Nevada	P. O. Box 4850, Reno Nevada 89505
Oregon	1218 S. W. Washington St., Portland, Oregon 97205
Utah	4012 Federal Bldg., 125 South State St., Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
Washington	360 U.S. Court House, Spokane, Washington 99201
Wyoming	P. O. Box 2440, Casper, Wyoming 82601

PUBLISHED BY OTHER AGENCIES

Water Supply Outlook reports prepared by other agencies include a report for California by the Water Supply Forecast and Snow Surveys Unit, California Department of Water Resources, P. O. Box 388, Sacramento, California 95802 --- and for British Columbia by the Department of Lands, Forests and Water Resources, Water Resources Service, Parliament Building, Victoria, British Columbia

USDA SCS PORTLAND OREG 1970

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR MONTANA

and

FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS

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MONTANA WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK
January 1, 1972

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*                                             *
* The mountain snowpack is above average in   *
* all drainages.  Some snow courses in the    *
* Bitterroot, Madison and upper Yellowstone   *
* have near record amounts of water stored    *
* in the snowpack.                            *
*                                             *
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COLUMBIA RIVER DRAINAGE

Snow - Snowpack in the Flathead drainage is a little more than last year and about 150 percent average. The upper Clark Fork is 140 percent of last year and about 170 percent average. The Bitterroot drainage has a snowpack similar to last year and is about 125 percent average. The lower Clark Fork is similar to last year and about 140 percent average. Snow depth measurements in the Kootenai River drainage are scheduled for February.

Soil moisture is generally near or below average in most drainages, with the exception of the Bitterroot, Blackfoot and lower Clark Fork where mountain soils are drier than average.

Streamflow - Forecasts of individual streams will be made on March 1. However, present moisture conditions indicate streamflow during the spring and summer months should be 10 to 25 percent above average in many drainages.

MISSOURI RIVER DRAINAGE

Snow - The mountain snowpack is well above average in several drainages. The snowpack is near record in many areas of the Beaverhead and Madison drainages and in mountains of Central Montana. Snowpack in the Jefferson and Madison River drainages is similar to a year ago and about 160 percent average. The Gallatin River snowpack is less than last year and about 70 percent of the record amounts measured last year, and about 120 percent average. Snowpack over the Missouri headwaters above Canyon Ferry is about 10 percent less than last year and about 145 percent average. Tributaries to the Missouri Main Stem have about 140 to 160 percent average snowpack.

Mountain soil moisture is generally near average with the exception of the southwestern portion of the state which is above average.

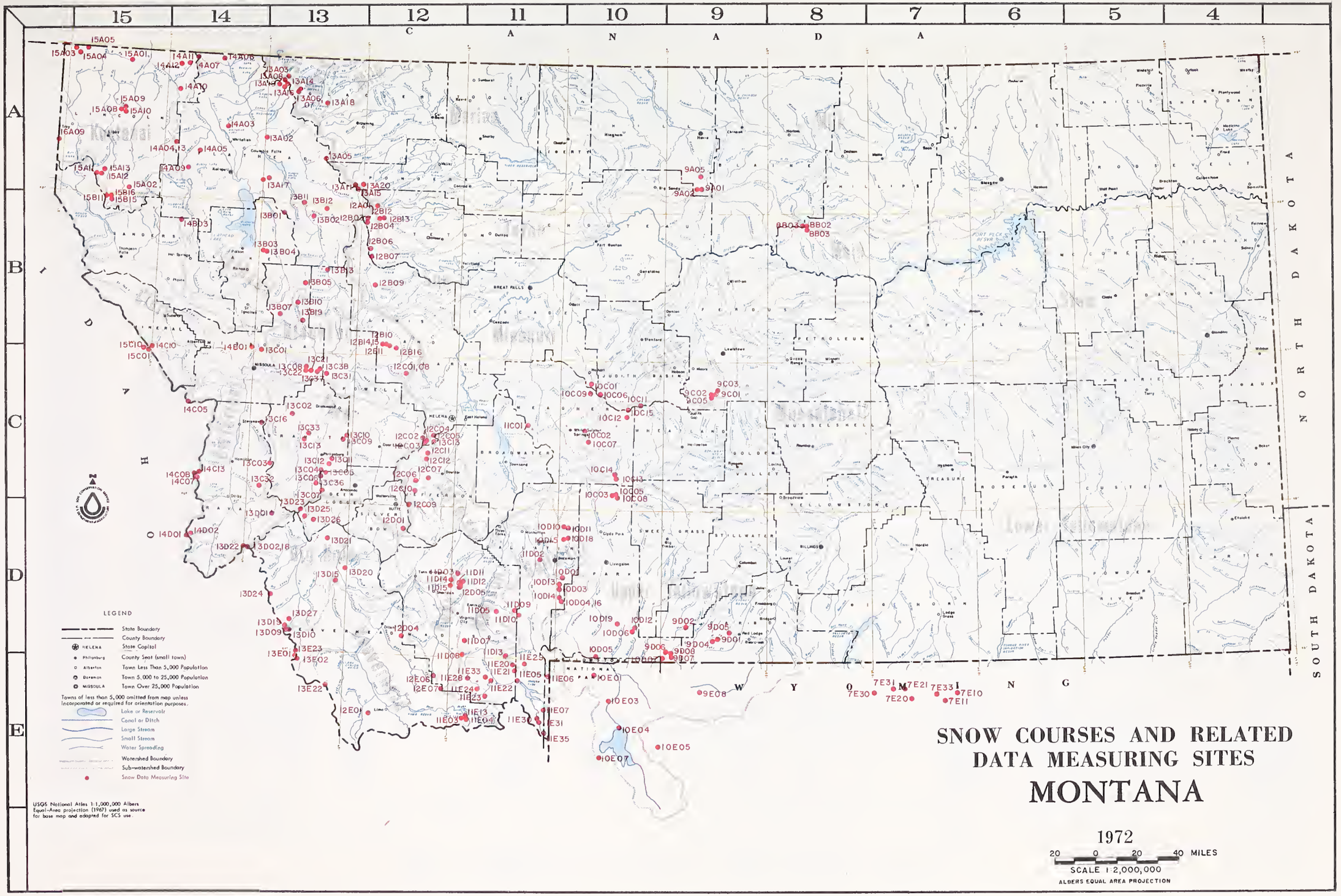
Streamflow - Forecasts of streamflow will be issued on March 1. With the present snowpack at least an average runoff can be anticipated next spring, even though below average precipitation is recorded throughout June. Runoff should be in the 120 to 150 percent average range on most streams.

YELLOWSTONE RIVER DRAINAGE

Snow - Snowpack in the Yellowstone drainage above Billings is well above average, and near record in some areas. Over the headwaters area the snowpack is about 5 percent less than a year ago and about 145 percent average.

Soil moisture is generally above average in headwater areas and near average elsewhere.

Streamflow - With present conditions, streamflow can be expected to be well above average and likely near the high volume flows produced last year.


SNOW COURSES AND RELATED
DATA MEASURING SITES
MONTANA
1972
SCALE 1:2,000,000
ALBERS EQUAL AREA PROJECTION
20 0 20 40 MILES
LEGEND
State Boundary
County Boundary
State Capital
County Seat (small town)
Town Less Than 5,000 Population
Town 5,000 to 25,000 Population
Town Over 25,000 Population
Towns of less than 5,000 omitted from map unless incorporated or required for orientation purposes.
Lake or Reservoir
Canal or Ditch
Large Stream
Small Stream
Water Spreading
Watershed Boundary
Sub-watershed Boundary
Snow Data Measuring Site
USGS National Atlas 1:1,000,000 Albers Equal-Area projection (1967) used as source for base map and adapted for SCS use.
C A N A D A
NORTH DAKOTA
SOUTH DAKOTA
W Y O M I N G
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

INDEX to MONTANA SNOW COURSES and SOIL MOISTURE STATIONS

SNOW COURSES

COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN

Drainage Basin & Snow Course	Number	Elev.	Sec.	Twp.	Range	Record Began	Measuring Dates 1/	Meas. By 2/
KOOTENAI RIVER								
Bald Eagle Peak	15A11	5700	6	27N	31W	1969	3,4,5,5½,6	1
Banfield Mountain	15A08	5600	4	32N	30W	1969	2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Bares Creek	15B11	5500	36	26N	31W	1956	3,4,5,5½	2
Bares Midway	15B16	4600	31	26N	30W	1966	3,4,5,5½	2
Bares Trail	15B15	3800	5	25N	30W	1965	3,4,5,5½	2
Bristow Creek	15A10	3900	2	32N	30W	1969	2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Brush Creek	14A04	5000	12	30N	26W	1937	3,4,5	1,2
Brush Creek Timber	14A13	5000	12	30N	26W	1969	3,4,5	1,2
Cedar Grove	15A13	4100	35	28N	31W	1969	2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Davis Creek	15A04	5400	20	37N	33W	1969	2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Carver Creek	15A05	4250	18	37N	32W	1969	2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Craves Creek	14A11	4300	1	36N	25W	1937	3,4,5,5½,6	1
Hawkins Lake	15A03	6450	18	37N	33W	1969	2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Keeler Creek	16A09	3300	25	30N	35W	1969	3,4,5	1
Lost Soul	15A09	4800	31	33N	29W	1969	2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Poorman Creek	15A12	5100	5	27N	31W	1969	2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Red Mountain	15A01	6000	4	36N	29W	1937	3,4,5,5½,6	2
Stahl Peak	14A12	6050	5	36N	25W	1969	3,4,5,5½,6	1
Weasel Divide	14A07	5450	20	37N	24W	1937	3,4,5,5½,6	1
FLATHEAD RIVER								
Bassoo Peak	14B03	5150	11	24N	25W	1961	3,4,5	1,5
Beaver Lake	13A11	5900	31	28N	11W	1964	3,4,5	1
Big Creek	13B03	6750	7	22N	18W	1941	3,4,5, 6	1,5
Camp Misery	13A17	6400	30	28N	18W	1962	3,4,5	1,2
Desert Mountain	13A02	5600	24	31N	19W	1937	1,2,3,4,5, 6	1,2
Petty Creek	13B04	5500	8	22N	18W	1962	3,4,5, 6	1,5
Pletcop Mountain	13A19	6300	12	35N	18W	1968	4	1,6
Griffin Creek Divide	14A09	5150	11	28N	25W	1960	3,4,5	1,5
Gunsight Lake	13B12	6300	35	26N	14W	1964	3,4,5	1
Hell Roaring Divide	14A03	5770	35	32N	22W	1942	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	2
Holbrook	13B13	4530	18	21N	13W	1951	1,2,3,4,5	1
Kishenehn	14A06	3890	14	37N	22W	1954	3,4	6
Logan Creek	14A05	4300	34	30N	24W	1937	3,4,5	1,2
Marias Pass	13A05	5250	34	30N	14W	1934	1,2,3,4,5	3
Mineral Creek	13A16	4000	29	35N	17W	1957	3,4,5	6
Noisy Creek	13A21	3600	35	28N	19W	1970	3,4,5	1,2
North Fork Jocko	13B07	6330	3	17N	17W	1941	3,4,5,5½,6	1,5
Spotted Bear Mountain	13B02	7000	23	25N	15W	1948	1,2,3,4,5	1
Trinkus Lake	13B01	6100	9	25N	17W	1948	3,4,5	1
Twin Creeks	13B11	3580	24	26N	16W	1951	1,2,3,4,5	1
Upper Holland Lake	13B05	6200	28	20N	15W	1948	3,4,5	1
CLARK FORK RIVER								
Black Pine	13C13	7100	26	8N	15W	1959	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Combination	13C33	5600	7	8N	14W	1971	1,2,3,4,5	1
Copper Bottom	12B16	5200	15	15N	8W	1971	1,2,3,4,5	1,2
Copper Camp	12B14	6950	3	15N	9W	1971	1,2,3,4,5	1,2
Copper Creek	12B10	5700	1	15N	9W	1962	3,4,5	1,2
Copper Lake Creek	12B15	6100	3	15N	9W	1971	1,2,3,4,5	1,2
Cotter Mine	12B11	6250	2	15N	9W	1962	3,4,5	1,2
Coyote Hill	13B10	4200	12	18N	16W	1947	1,2,3,4,5	1,2
El Dorado Mine	13C09	7800	23	8N	12W	1949	3,4	1
Fred Burr Pass	13C11	8000	12	6N	13W	1957	3,4,5	1
Gold Creek Lake	13C10	7200	14	8N	12W	1949	3,4	1
Heart Lake Trail	14C10	4800	11	14N	27W	1965	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1,2
Hoodoo Basin	15C10	6000	17	14N	27W	1967	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1,2
Hoodoo Creek	15C01	5900	16	14N	27W	1937	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1,2
Intergaard	13C04	6450	6	5N	13W	1936	2,3,4,5	4
Lubrecht Flume	13C38	4800	13	13N	14W	1971	1,2,3,4,5	8
Lubrecht Forest No. 3	13C21	5450	19	13N	14W	1951	1,2,3,4,5	8
Lubrecht Forest No. 4	13C22	4650	23	13N	15W	1951	1,2,3,4,5	8
Lubrecht Forest No. 6	13C08	4040	11	13N	15W	1951	1,2,3,4,5	8
Lubrecht Hydroplnt	13C37	4200	22	13N	14W	1971	1,2,3,4,5	8
North Fork Elk Creek	13C31	6250	20	13N	13W	1968	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	8
Petersoo Meadows	13C36	7200	2	4N	14W	1971	1,2,3,4,5	2
Red Lion	13C12	7100	22	6N	13W	1958	3,4,5	1
Skalkaho Summit	13C03	7260	30	6N	17W	1937	3,4,5,5½,6	1
Slide Rock Mountain	13C02	7100	35	10N	16W	1937	3,4,5	1
Southern Cross	13C05	6500	8	5N	13W	1936	2,3,4	4
Storm Lake	13C07	7780	19	4N	13W	1939	1,2,3,4,5	1
Stuart Mill	13C06	6500	19	5N	13W	1936	2,3,4	4
Stuart Mountain	13C01	7400	6	14N	18W	1936	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	8
TV Mountain	14B01	6800	33	15N	19W	1936	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	8
BITTERROOT RIVER								
Ambrose	13C16	6480	28	9N	18W	1960	3,4,5	1
Coyote Meadows Trail	13C32	7000	20	4N	18W	1969	3,4,5	1
East Fork S. S.	13D01	5400	16	2N	17W	1937	3,4	1
Gibbons Pass	13D02	7100	4	2S	19W	1934	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1,3
Lost Horse	14C07	5940	5	4N	23W	1960	3,4,5,5½,6	1
Nez Perce Camp	14D02	5580	19	1S	23W	1937	3,4,5	1
Nez Perce Pass	14C01	6570	25	1S	24W	1937	3,4,5	1
Saddle Mountain	13D22	7940	5	2S	19W	1965	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Twelvemile Creek	14C13	5600	34	5N	23W	1968	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Twin Lakes	14C08	6510	32	5N	23W	1960	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
ST. MARY RIVER BASIN								
Hudson Bay Divide	13A18	5800	24	34N	14W	1962	3,4,5	3
Iceberg Lake No. 3	13A03	5600	1	35N	17W	1922	5	3,9
Josephine Lower No. 9	13A14	4900	22	35N	16W	1955	5	3,9
Mount Allen No. 7	13A07	5700	27	35N	16W	1922	5	3,9
Piegan Pass No. 6	13A06	5500	27	35N	16W	1922	5	3,9
Ptarmigan No. 8	13A08	5800	36	36N	17W	1937	5	3,9

MISSOURI RIVER BASIN

Drainage Basin & Snow Course	Number	Elev.	Sec.	Twp.	Range	Record Began	Measuring Dates 1/	Meas. By 2/
BEAVERHEAD RIVER								
Bloody Dick	13D10	7600	12	8S	16W	1948	3,4,5	1
Carter Creek	12D04	7400	22	8S	7W	1963	2,3,4	11
Dad Creek Lake	13E22	8400	24	12S	13W	1965	3,4,5	1
Elk Horn Springs	13D15	7800	21	4S	12W	1935	3,4,5	3
Gold Stone	13D09	8100	11	8S	16W	1948	3,4,5	1
Lakeview Canyon	11E04	6930	26	14S	2W	1948	1,2,3,4,5	10
Lakeview Ridge	11E03	7400	27	14S	2W	1948	1,2,3,4,5	10
Lemhi Pass	13E01	7480	9	10S	15W	1948	3,4	1
Lemhi Ridge	13E23	8100	4	10S	15W	1967	3,4	1
Trail Creek	13E02	7090	15	10S	15W	1948	3,4	1
White Pine Ridge	12E01	8850	18	14S	9W	1948	3,4,5	1
RUBY RIVER								
Branham Lakes	11D14	8850	5	4S	3W	1967	3,4,5	1,12
Clover Meadow	11D08	8600	28	9S	2W	1963	3,4,5	1
Divide	12E07	7900	14	12S	4W	1963	3,4,5	1
Middle Mill Creek	11D15	7850	17	4S	3W	1967	3,4,5	1,12
Notch	12E06	8500	18	11S	4W	1963	3,4,5	1
Smuggler Mine	12D05	6960	24	4S	3W	1967	3,4,5	1,12
BIG HOLE RIVER								
Abundance Lake	13D20	8800	7	3S	11W	1963	3,4,5	1
Calvert Creek	13D26	6450	34	2N	14W	1969	3,4,5	1
Darkhorse Lake	13D19	8600	4	8S	16W	1963	3,4,5	1
Poolhen	13D21	8280	11	1S	13W	1963	3,4,5	1
Johnke Lake Trail	13D27	7200	24	7S	16W	1969	3,4,5	1
Mudd Lake	13D25	7650	24	2N	15W	1969	3,4,5	1
Palisade Creek	13D23	8250	3	2N	15W	1967	4,5	1
Slag-A-Malt Lake	13D24	8750	29	5S	17W	1968	3,4,5	1
JEFFERSON RIVER								
Berry Meadow	12C07	7300	8	5N	5W	1962	3,4,5	1
Copper Mountain	12C09	7700	13	3N	7W	1966	2,3,4,5,5½	4
Nez Perce Creek	12C10	6500	16	4N	6W	1967	2,3,4,5	4
Picnic Grounds	12C06	6500	21	5N	6W	1941	2,3,4	4
Pipestone Pass	12D01	7200	10	1N	7W	1938	1,2,3,4,5	1
Rocker Peak	12C11	8000	17	7N	5W	1968	1,2,3,4,5	1
Uncle Sam Gulch	12C12	6500	32	7N	5W	1968	3,4,5	1
MADISON RIVER								
Black Bear	11E35	7950	27	15S	5E	1972	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1,2
Call Road	11D07	8050	21	8S	2W	1962	3,4,5	1
Four Mile	11D12	6900	5	4S	2W	1965	3,4,5	1
Nebgen Dam	11E05	6550	22	11S	3E	1934	1,2,3,4,5	3
Jack Creek	11D05	7500	13	6S	1E	1961	3,4	1
Lake Creek	11E22	6100	27	11S	1E	1965	2,3,4,5	2
Lion Mountain	11E28	8760	23	11S	2W	1967	2,3,4,5	2
Lower Twin	11D11	7900	12	4S	3W	1965	3,4,5	1
Madison Plateau	11E31	7750	28	14S	5E	1968	3,4,5	1,2
Meridian Creek	11E23	7000	31	12S	1E	1965	2,3,4,5	2
North Meadow	11D03	7500	24	3S	3W	1961	3,4,5	1
Potomageton Park	11E21	7150	33	10S	3E	1965	3,4,5	2
Sentinal Creek	11E20	8300	17	10S	3E	1965	3,4,5	2
Soap Bogus Divide	11E33	7600	19	11S	1E	1968	3,4,5	2
Tepee Creek	11E24	8000	15	12S	1W	1965	2,3,4,5	2
West Yellowstone	11E07	6700	34	13S	5E	1934	1,2,3,4,5	1,3,6
Whiskey Creek	11E30	6800	19	14S	5E	1967	3,4,5	2
GALLATIN RIVER								
Arch Falls	10D14	7350	3	5S	6E	1963	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Bear Basin	11D09	8150	9	6S	3E	1963	3,4,5	1
Bridger Bowl	10D15	7250	25	1N	6E	1965	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Carrot Basin	11E29	9000	18	10S	4E	1967	1,2,3,4,5	2
Devils Slide	10D04	8100	14	5S	6E	1935	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Hood Meadow	10D03	6600	22	4S	6E	1935	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Lick Creek	10D13	6860	10	4S	6E	1964	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Little Park	11D10	7600	22	6S	3E	1963	3,4,5	1
Maynard Creek	10D18	6210	19	1N	7E	1967	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
New World	10D01	6700	24	3S	6E	1939	2,3,4	1
Shower Falls	10D16	8100	14	5S	6E	1966	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
Taylor Peaks	11D13	8500	26	9S	2E	1967	3,4,5	1
Twenty-One Mile	11E06	7150	1	11S	5E	1934	1,2,3,4,5	3
MISSOURI RIVER MAIN STEM								
Boulder Mountain	11C01	7950	1	9N	3E	1963	3,4,5	1
Chessman Reservoir	12C05	6200	2	8N	5W	1936	1,2,3,4,5	3
Deadman Creek	10C09	6450	23	12N	8E	1966	1,2,3,4,5	1
Elk Peak	10C07	8000	10	8N	8E	1963	3,4,5	1
Prohner Meadows	13C13	6500	23	8N	5W	1971	1,2,3,4,5	1
Grasshopper	10C02	7000	19	9N	8E	1938	3,4,5	1
Kings Hill	10C01	7500	34	13N	8E	1936	3,4,5,5½,6	1,3
Stemple Pass	12C01	6600	16	13N	7W	1934	3,4,5	3
Ten Mile Lower	12C02	6600	12	8N	6W	1935	1,2,3,4,5	3
Ten Mile Middle	12C03	6800	13	8N	6W	1934	1,2,3,4,5	3
Ten Mile Upper	12C04	8000	19	8N	5W	1935	1,2,3,4,5	3
SUN-TETON-MARIAS RIVERS								
Badger Pass	13A15	6900	4	27N	11W	1964	1,2,3,4,5	1
Blue Lake	13A20	5900	25	28N	11W	1969	1,2,3,4,5	1
Cabin Creek	12B06	5200	33	23N	10W	1949	3,4,5	2
Five-Bull	12B09	5700	25	20N	10W	1948	3,4,5	1
Freight Creek	12A01	6000	13	26N	10W	1948	3,4,5	1
Goat Mountain	12B07	7000	20	22N	10W	1934	3,4,5	3
Mount Lockhart	12B12	6400	18	25N	9W	1969	3,4,5	2
Waldron	12B13	5600	17	25N	9W	1969	3,4,5	2
Wrong Creek	12B04	5700	32	25N	10W	1949	3,4,5	2
Wrong Ridge	12B03	6800	17	25N	10W	1949	3,4,5	2
JUDITH RIVER								
Avalanche	9C02	7100	24	12N	17E	1966	3,4,5	1
Big Snowy	9C05	7150	25	12N	17E	1971	3,4,5	1
Crystal Lake	9C01	6100	19	12N	18E	1941	3,4,5	1
Rock Creek	9C03	5600	8	12N	18E	1966	3,4,5	1
Spur Park	10C06	8000	20	12N	9E	1963	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1
MUSSELSHELL RIVER								
Daisy Peak	10C15	7600	34	11N	11E	1969	3,4,5	2
Eagle Creek	10C13	7000	2	5N	10E	1969	3,4,5	2
Forest Lake	10C14	6400	26	6N	10E	1969	3,4,5	2
Haymaker	10C11	8050	16	11N	12E	1969	3,4,5	2
Johnson Park	10C12	6450	16	10N	11E	1969	3,4,5	2
MILK RIVER								
Bear Paw Ski Area	9A02	5200	21	28N	16E	1967	1,2,3,4,5	7
King Creek Saddle	8B02	6550	10	25N	24E	1971	1,2,3,4,5	5
King Springs	8B03	6150	9	25N	24E	1971	1,2,3,4,5	5
Mission Mountain	8B01	5050	15	25N	24E	1971	1,2,3,4,5	5
Rocky Boy	9A01	4700	22	28N	16E	1941	1,2,3,4,5	7
UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER								
Gold Ridge	10C05	7500	11	4N	10E	1961	3,4,5	1
Camp Sonia	9D01	7890	2	8S	18E	1937	3,4,5,5½,6	1
Cooke Station	9D07	8150	19	9S	15E	1966	3,4,5,5½,6	1,2
Crevice Mountain	10D05	8400	22	9S	9E	1935	3,4	2
Fisher Creek	9D06	9100	11	9S	14E	1966	3,4,5,5½,6	1,2
Grizzly Peak	9D05	8400	26	7S	19E	1961	1,2,3,4,5	1,2
Independence	10D06	7850	21	7S	12E	1960	3,4,5	1
Mill Creek	10D19	7500	6	7S	11E	1967	3,4,5	2
Monument Peak	10D12	8800	16	7S	12E	1961	3,4,5	1
Northeast Entrance	10D07	7400	33	9S	14E	1937	1,2,3,4,5,5½,6	1,6
Porcupine R. S.	10C03	6500	10	4N	10E	1938	3,4,5	1
Sacajawea	10D10	6550	36	2N	6E	1960	3,4,5	1
South Fork Shields	10C08	8100	13	4N	10E	1965	3,4,5	1
Timberline Creek	9D04	8850	10	8S	18E	1961	3,4,5,5½,6	1
West Rosebud	9D02	7500	9	7S	16E	1960	3,4	4
White Mill	9D08	8700	18	9S	15E	1966	3,4,5,5½,6	1,2

SOIL MOISTURE STATIONS

COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN

Drainage Basin & Snow Course	Number	Elev.	Sec.	Twp.	Range	Record Began	Measuring Dates 1/	Meas. By 2/
KOOTENAI RIVER								
Geree Trail	15B15M	3800	5	25N	30W	1964	Monthly	2
Murphy Lake R. S.	14A10M	3000	5	34N	25W	1964	Monthly	2
Raven R. S.	15A02M	3050	2	26N	29W	1964	Monthly	2
FLATHEAD RIVER								
Desert Mountain	13A02M	5600	24	31N	19W	1956	Monthly	1
Marias Pass	13A05M	5250	34	30N	14W	1950	Monthly	6
CLARK FORK RIVER								
Black Pine	13C13M	7100	26	8N	15W	1965	Monthly	1
Lubrecht Forest	13C14M	4100	11	13N	15W	1961	Monthly	8
Sealey Lake R. S.	13B19M	4030	21	17N	15W	1963	Monthly	2
Skalkaho Summit	13C03M	7260	30	6N	17W	1964	Monthly	1
BITTERROOT RIVER								
Gibbons Pass	13D18M	7100	4	2S	19W	1962	Monthly	1
Lolo Pass	14C05M	5250	11	10N	24W	1963	Monthly	1

MISSOURI RIVER BASIN

Drainage Basin & Snow Course	Number	Elev.	Sec.	Twp.	Range	Record Began	Measuring Dates 1/	Meas. By 2/
BEAVERHEAD RIVER								
Lakeview	11E13M	6700	23	14W	2W	1962	Monthly	10
MADISON RIVER								
West Yellowstone	11E07M	6700	34	13S	5W	1966	Monthly	6
GALLATIN RIVER								
Bridger Bowl	10D15M	7250	25	1N	6E	1966	Monthly	1
College Site No. 2	11D02M	4856	18	2S	5E	1956	Monthly	1
Lick Creek	10D13M	6860	10	4S	6E	1965	Monthly	1
Twenty-One Mile	11E06M	7150	1	11S	5E	1963	Monthly	6
MISSOURI RIVER MAIN STEM								
Kings Hill	10C01M	7420	34	13N	8E	1963	Monthly	1
Stemple Pass	12C08M	6350	16	13N	7W	1963	Monthly	1
MILK RIVER								
Beaver Creek	9A05M	3950	21	29N	16E	1969	Monthly	1
Rocky Boy	9A01M	4700	22	28N	16E	1969	Monthly	1
YELLOWSTONE RIVER								
Battle Ridge	10D11M	6020	32	2N	7E	1960	Monthly	1
Northeast Entrance	10D07M	7350	33	9S	14E	1962	Monthly	6

LEGEND

1/ Numerals 1,2,3,4,5,5½,6 refer to January 1, February 1, March 1, April 1, May 1, May 15 and June 1.

2/ Numerals refer to Agency making the snow surveys as follows:

1. Soil Conservation Service
2. Forest Service
3. Geological Survey
4. Montana Power Company
5. Bureau of Indian Affairs
6. National Park Service
7. MSU Agricultural Experiment Station
8. U. of M. School of Forestry
9. Department of Energy, Mines & Resources
10. Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife
11. Private Cooperator
12. Montana Conservation Districts

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
					Water Content (inches)	
NAME	Elevation	Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Last Year	Average
COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN						
FLATHEAD RIVER						
Desert Mountain	5600	12/29	34	10.5	9.5	6.5
Hell Roaring Divide	5770	1/03	68	21.1	17.0	13.2
Holbrook	4530				6.5A	3.4
Marias Pass	5250	12/29	41	10.5	9.4	7.4
Spotted Bear Mountain	7000				9.0A	6.5
Twin Creeks	3580				7.5A	5.0
CLARK FORK RIVER						
Black Pine	7100	12/30	30	6.9	4.6	3.9
Black Pine Pillow	7100	12/30	SP	8.1	6.2	5.1
Combination	5600	1/03	24	4.4	1.9	-
Coyote Hill	4200	1/05	42	9.2	5.4	4.3
Heart Lake Trail	4800	1/04	54	15.2	11.4	-
Hoodoo Basin	6000	1/04	95	28.5	25.2	19.8
Hoodoo Basin Pillow	6000				23.5E	19.1
Hoodoo Creek	5900	1/04	92	27.5	23.4	18.0
Lookout	5250	12/29	78	19.4	21.8	15.7
Lubrecht Flume	4800				2.4	-
Lubrecht Forest No. 3	5450	12/30	21	4.6	2.7	2.6
Lubrecht Forest No. 4	4650	12/30	14	2.6	1.6	1.4
Lubrecht Forest No. 6	4040	12/30	18	3.6	1.8	1.6
Lubrecht Hydroplot	4200				2.0	-
North Fork Elk Creek	6250				5.8	-
Peterson Meadows	7200	12/28	27	5.4	5.3	-
Peterson Meadows Pillow	7200	12/28	SP	5.6	6.2	-
Storm Lake	7780	12/28	29	5.7	7.6	5.5
TV Mountain	6800				10.9	6.6
BITTERROOT RIVER						
Gibbons Pass	7100	12/29	46	12.0	12.9	9.6
Lolo Pass	5230	12/28	64	16.7	16.0	13.4
Lost Horse	5940	12/27	60	16.0	13.6	11.8
Moose Creek	6200	1/02	44	9.8	8.0	-
Saddle Mountain	7940	12/29	49	12.8	14.4	12.4
Saddle Mountain Pillow	7940	12/29	SP	12.5	16.5	-
Savage Pass	6600	12/27	49	12.4	12.7	-
Twelvemile Creek	5600	12/27	48	12.2	9.4	-
Twelvemile Creek Pillow	5600	12/27	SP	9.0	8.4	-
Twin Lakes	6510	12/27	74	20.7	17.8	15.7
Twin Lakes Pillow	6400	12/27	SP	19.5	18.5	-

A - Aerial observation - water content estimated.
SP - Snow pillow observation - water content only.
E - Estimated data.

Average based on 1953-67 period.

USDA-SCS-PORTLAND, OREG. 1969 M-4240

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
					Water Content (inches)	
NAME	Elevation	Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Last Year	Average
MISSOURI RIVER BASIN						
BEAVERHEAD RIVER						
Camp Creek	6800	12/28	34	8.0	9.7	3.5
Kilgore	6200	12/30	36	7.5	9.6	3.5
Lakeview Canyon	6930	12/30	42	10.3	10.8	4.6
Lakeview Ridge	7400	12/30	36	8.7	9.6	4.2
Sawtelle Mountain	8715	12/28	74	20.7	-	-
JEFFERSON RIVER						
Pipestone Pass	7200	12/29	20	4.6	2.3	2.2
Rocker Peak	8000	12/29	31	7.4	-	-
Rocker Peak Pillow	8000	12/29	SP	6.9	8.1	-
Uncle Sam Gulch	6500	12/29	19	3.7	-	-
MADISON RIVER						
Big Springs	6500	12/27	59	12.4	-	7.2
Black Bear Pillow	7950	12/27	SP	20.2	-	-
Hebgen Dam	6550	12/27	35	6.6	6.6	4.5
Island Park	6315	12/27	51	10.6	11.3	5.6
Madison Plateau Pillow	7750	12/27	SP	15.4	17.8	-
Norris Basin	7500	1/02	45	9.5	6.6	4.3
Targhee Pass	7000	12/28	44	10.0	12.1	5.1
Valley View	6500	12/28	47	10.8	12.2	5.3
West Yellowstone	6700	12/28	36	8.1	8.0	4.3
West Yellowstone Pillow	6700	12/27	SP	6.4	7.7	-
Whiskey Creek	6800				-	-
Whiskey Creek Pillow	6800	1/03	SP	12.1	-	-
GALLATIN RIVER						
Arch Falls	7350	12/28	24	5.8	7.0	4.3
Bridger Bowl	7250	12/29	38	10.0	19.4	9.4
Bridger Bowl Pillow	7250	12/29	SP	10.4	18.5	9.3
Devils Slide	8100	12/28	38	9.8	13.2	8.6
Hood Meadow	6600	12/28	20	4.6	6.4	4.0
Lick Creek	6860	12/28	20	3.9	5.7	3.3
Lick Creek Pillow	6860	12/28	SP	3.6	5.6	3.3
Maynard Creek	6210	12/29	28	6.5	10.8	5.4
Maynard Creek Pillow	6210	12/29	SP	4.8	7.1	4.1
Shower Falls	8100	12/28	44	12.2	14.8	10.2
Shower Falls Pillow	8100	12/28	SP	10.7	12.7	9.5
Twenty-One Mile	7150	12/28	48	11.0	12.6	7.2

SP - Snow pillow observation - water content only.

Average based on 1953-67 period.

USDA-SCS-PORTLAND, OREG. 1969 M-4240

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
					Water Content (inches)	
NAME	Elevation	Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Last Year	Average
MISSOURI RIVER (Main Stem)						
Chessman Reservoir	6200	1/05	17	3.5	1.6	1.4
Deadman Creek	6450	12/27	38	6.1	4.3	4.5
Deadman Creek Pillow	6450	12/27	SP	6.2	3.8	-
Ten Mile Lower	6600	1/04	25	4.8	2.6	2.8
Ten Mile Middle	6800	1/04	36	7.4	5.3	4.3
Ten Mile Upper	8000	1/04	40	8.0	6.8	5.5
SUN-TETON-MARIAS RIVERS						
Badger Pass	6900				25.0A	-
Blue Lake	5900				13.0A	-
Mount Lockhart	6400	12/22	53	11.2	-	-
Mount Lockhart Pillow	6400	12/22	SP	10.5	11.4	-
Waldron	5600	12/22	27	5.8	-	-
Waldron Pillow	5600	12/22	SP	6.9	5.8	-
JUDITH RIVER						
Spur Park	8100	12/27	56	11.8	8.9	8.3
Spur Park Pillow	8100	12/27	SP	13.1	10.3	-
MILK RIVER						
Bear Paw Ski Area	5200	12/29	9	1.2	3.5	-
King Creek Saddle	4550	1/03	12	1.4	2.2	-
King Springs	4150	1/03	8E	0.9E	1.9	-
Mission Mountain	5050	1/03	11	1.4	2.0	-
Rocky Boy	4700	12/29	7	0.7	1.9	-
Rocky Boy Pillow	4700	12/29	SP	0.4	0.9	-
UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER						
Canyon	7750	12/31	37	8.5	9.4	6.0
Cooke Station	8150	1/03	52	11.8	-	-
East Entrance	7000	1/02	32	6.9	5.6	-
Fisher Creek	9100	1/03	82	22.3	-	-
Fisher Creek Pillow	9100	1/03	SP	20.6	22.9	-
Grizzly Peak	8400	1/04	66	15.8	6.4	7.2
Lake Camp	7850	12/31	27	5.2	6.2	3.5
Lupine Creek	7300	1/02	30	5.3	6.4	4.2
Northeast Entrance	7400	12/30	21	5.4	3.7	3.5
Northeast Entrance Pillow	7350	12/30	SP	4.9	4.3	-
Sylvan Pass	7100	1/02	42	8.6	8.6	5.5
Thumb Divide	7900	1/02	49	11.7	15.0	8.8
White Mill	8700	1/03	67	17.0	-	-

SP - Snow pillow observation - water content only.

Average based on 1953-67 period.

USDA-SCS-PORTLAND, OREG. 1969 M-4240

SOIL MOISTURE NOVEMBER 1, 1971

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or STATION		Profile (Inches)		Date of Survey	Soil Moisture (Inches)		
Name	Elevation	Depth	Capacity		This Year	Last Year	Average +
COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN							
Kootenai							
Baree Trail	3800	48	7.5	11/01	6.2	5.5	5.8
Murphy Lake R. S.	3000	48	22.6	11/02	18.8	18.4	18.8
Raven R. S.	3050	48	23.0	11/01	13.5	18.1	18.5
Flathead							
Desert Mountain	5600	54	8.4	10/27	5.5	6.5	6.6
Marias Pass	5250	54	6.5	10/28	4.0	4.0	4.5
Clark Fork							
Black Pine	7100	48	10.0	10/29	7.4	7.9	7.9
Lubrecht Forest	4100	48	26.8	11/06	13.5	14.1	-
Seeley Lake R. S.	4030	48	11.9	11/01	4.0	4.0	4.6
Skalkaho Summit	7260	48	10.8	10/29	9.8	9.9	10.2
Bitterroot							
Gibbons Pass	7100	48	7.1	10/26	3.1	5.4	5.5
Lolo Pass	5250	48	10.6	10/29	2.9	5.1	5.9
MISSOURI RIVER BASIN							
Beaverhead							
Lakeview	6700	48	15.3	11/01	14.6	7.0	6.0
Madison							
West Yellowstone	6700	48	6.5	10/28	2.9	3.1	2.7
Gallatin							
Bridger Bowl	7250	48	17.0	11/01	16.0	16.4	15.4
College Site #2	4860	48	17.7	11/05	13.4	15.8	10.4
Lick Creek	6860	48	18.8	11/01	17.0	17.5	17.9
Twenty-One Mile	7150	48	10.0	10/29	6.6	5.5	4.5
Missouri Main Stem							
Kings Hill	7420	48	11.8	10/29	5.0	6.4	7.6
Stemple Pass	6350	48	5.9	11/02	3.8	3.9	4.0
Milk							
Beaver Creek	3950	48	20.9	10/29	6.3	7.1	-
Rocky Boy	3950	36	10.1	10/29	6.3	9.1	-
Yellowstone							
Battle Ridge	6020	48	17.6	11/01	9.2	16.5	12.1
Northeast Entrance	7350	48	9.4	10/28	4.7	-	6.9

+ Average for period of record.

USDA-SCS-PORTLAND, OREG. 1969 M-4240

SOIL MOISTURE DECEMBER 1, 1971

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or STATION		Profile (Inches)		Date of Survey	Soil Moisture (Inches)		
Name	Elevation	Depth	Capacity		This Year	Last Year	Average +
COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN							
Kootenai							
Baree Trail	3800	48	7.5			6.5	6.2
Murphy Lake R. S.	3000	48	22.6	12/02	19.1	18.7	19.3
Raven R. S.	3050	48	23.0	12/08	13.6	18.6	19.9
Flathead							
Desert Mountain	5600	54	8.4			-	-
Marias Pass	5250	54	6.5	11/27	4.6	4.3	4.8
Clark Fork							
Black Pine	7100	48	10.0	11/30	7.4	7.9	8.2
Lubrecht Forest	4100	48	26.8	12/02	14.0	15.1	-
Seeley Lake R. S.	4030	48	11.9	12/01	5.5	6.5	5.5
Skalkaho Summit	7260	48	10.8			-	-
Bitterroot							
Gibbons Pass	7100	48	7.1	11/29	2.8	5.4	5.3
Lolo Pass	5250	48	10.6	12/01	3.1	6.6	6.4
MISSOURI RIVER BASIN							
Beaverhead							
Lakeview	6700	48	15.3	12/01	14.0	6.4	6.7
Madison							
West Yellowstone	6700	48	6.5	12/02	2.8	2.8	2.7
Gallatin							
Bridger Bowl	7250	48	17.0	11/29	16.2	16.3	15.3
College Site #2	4860	48	17.7	12/03	13.4	16.2	12.1
Lick Creek	6860	48	18.8	11/30	17.2	17.7	16.8
Twenty-One Mile	7150	48	10.0	12/02	5.9	5.4	3.8
Missouri Main Stem							
Kings Hill	7420	48	11.8	12/07	4.9	5.6	7.4
Stemple Pass	6350	48	5.9	12/02	3.6	4.3	4.1
Milk							
Beaver Creek	3950	48	20.9	11/30	6.5	7.0	-
Rocky Boy	3950	36	10.1	11/30	6.5	8.4	-
Yellowstone							
Battle Ridge	6020	48	17.6	11/29	11.6	16.9	13.1
Northeast Entrance	7350	48	9.4	12/03	4.5	-	7.0

+ Average for period of record.

USDA-SCS-PORTLAND, OREG 1969 M-4240

SOIL MOISTURE JANUARY 1, 1972

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or STATION		Profile (Inches)		Date of Survey	Soil Moisture (Inches)		
Name	Elevation	Depth	Capacity		This Year	Last Year	Average +
COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN							
Kootenai							
Baree Trail	3800	48	7.5	1/03	6.4	6.6	-
Murphy Lake R. S.	3000	48	22.6	1/03	19.1	18.9	19.4
Raven R. S.	3050	48	23.0	1/03	14.2	16.0	19.5
Flathead							
Desert Mountain	5600	54	8.4	12/29	6.7	6.9	6.9
Marias Pass	5250	54	6.5	12/27	4.6	4.4	4.8
Clark Fork							
Black Pine	7100	48	10.0	12/30	7.6	7.6	7.4
Lubrecht Forest	4100	48	26.8			14.6	-
Seeley Lake R. S.	4030	48	11.9			5.8	6.0
Skalkaho Summit	7260	48	10.8			-	-
Bitterroot							
Gibbons Pass	7100	48	7.1	12/29	2.9	5.3	5.1
Lolo Pass	5250	48	10.6	12/29	3.4	6.0	6.4
MISSOURI RIVER BASIN							
Beaverhead							
Lakeview	6700	48	15.3	1/03	13.5	6.2	6.9
Madison							
West Yellowstone	6700	48	6.5	12/27	2.8	2.9	2.6
Gallatin							
Bridger Bowl	7250	48	17.0	12/29	16.1	16.7	15.6
College Site #2	4860	48	17.7	12/31	12.8	15.7	12.2
Lick Creek	6860	48	18.8	12/28	16.8	-	16.3
Twenty-One Mile	7150	48	10.0	12/27	5.5	5.7	3.7
Missouri Main Stem							
Kings Hill	7420	48	11.8	12/27	4.7	5.7	6.9
Stemple Pass	6350	48	5.9	1/03	3.6	3.7	4.0
Milk							
Beaver Creek	3950	48	20.9	12/29	6.6	6.8	-
Rocky Boy	3950	36	10.1	12/29	5.7	7.2	-
Yellowstone							
Battle Ridge	6020	48	17.6	12/29	11.9	16.7	12.8
Northeast Entrance	7350	48	9.4	12/30	4.0	5.8	6.6

+ Average for period of record.

USDA-SCS-PORTLAND, OREG 1969 M-4240

RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet) END OF MONTH

Basin or Stream	RESERVOIR	Usable Capacity	Usable Storage		
			This Year	Last Year	Average
COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN					
Flathead	Hungry Horse	3,428.0	2,243.0	1,271.0	2,766.0
	Flathead Lake	1,791.0	1,338.0	1,282.0	1,330.0
	Camas (4)	45.2	24.5	16.2	26.7
	Mission Valley (8)	100.3	18.0	30.8	28.7
Clark Fork	Georgetown Lake	31.0	30.2	29.2	26.2
	Nevada Creek	12.6		-	4.3
	Noxon Rapids	334.6	317.4	324.4	321.1
Bitterroot	Como	34.9	3.7	5.2	6.9
	Painted Rocks	31.7	21.6	24.8	23.2
MISSOURI RIVER BASIN					
Beaverhead	Clark Canyon	328.9	139.1	139.3	122.4
	Lima	84.0	47.3	41.4	22.6
Ruby	Ruby	38.8	26.5	20.4	17.4
Madison	Hebgen Lake	377.5	259.3	266.5	170.6
	Ennis Lake	41.0	35.4	36.1	37.5
Gallatin	Middle Creek	8.0	2.7	3.4	2.9
Missouri	Canyon Ferry	2,043.0	1,754.0	1,719.0	1,676.0
	Hauser & Helena	61.9	62.5	62.5	58.2
	Lake Helena	10.4	10.7	10.7	9.2
	Holter Lake	81.9	76.5	81.9	70.5
	Smith River	10.7	3.8	-	5.6
	Bair	7.0	2.2	-	3.8
	Martinsdale	23.1		-	6.8
	Deadman's Basin	72.2	41.0	-	39.1
	Fort Peck	19,410.0	16,750.0	16,590.0	11,080.0
Sun	Gibson	105.0	33.8	23.2	44.1
	Willow Creek	32.3	19.8	20.6	20.2
	Pishkun	32.0	17.8	17.5	18.1
Marias	Lower Two Medicine	16.6		-	0.0
	Four Horns	19.2		-	12.3
	Swift	30.0	14.6	13.0	15.6
	Lake Frances	112.0	67.9	85.5	83.5
	Tiber	1,347.0	494.1	462.0	625.4
Milk	Fresno	127.2	44.7	66.1	61.9
	Nelson	66.8	37.0	51.0	44.4
	Lake Sherburne	66.1	13.7	15.2	15.3
Yellowstone	Mystic Lake	20.8	13.3	12.1	13.5
	Tongue River	68.0		29.8	18.8
	Cooney	27.5		10.8	12.5
Big Horn	Big Horn Lake	1,356.0	911.5	973.3	787.2

Average based on 1953-67 period.

USDA-SCS-PORTLAND, OREG. 1969 M-4240

Agencies and Organizations Cooperating in Montana Snow Surveys

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Canada:

Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, Alberta Water Investigations Branch, Department of Lands, Forests, and Water Resources, British Columbia

Federal:

Department of the Army
- Corps of Engineers

U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Forest Service
- Soil Conservation Service

U.S. Department of Commerce
- NOAA, National Weather Service

U.S. Department of the Interior
- Bonneville Power Administration
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife
- Geological Survey
- National Park Service

STATE

Montana Conservation Districts
Montana Water Resources Board
Montana State University - Agricultural Experiment Station
North Montana Branch Station - Agricultural Experiment Station
University of Montana - School of Forestry

PRIVATE

Montana Power Company

Other organizations and individuals furnish valuable information for snow survey reports. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

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